

## TRIBUTE TO DEAD

German Writes of American Cemetery in France.

Spot Where More Than 21,400 of the Bravest of Our Land Are Buried, Is Field of White.

Paul Block, Paris correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt, was recently a sympathetic observer of the destruction wrought by his countrymen in northern France, and sent to his paper a detailed report of his trip through the devastated region. Of a certain point in his journey he writes: "The guide relates in a matter-of-fact way that of the 131 villages which he covers in his trip some eighty have been utterly destroyed. This part of the journey, from Clermont-en-Artois to Bourguille, has all been wrecked by the war, but the worst came after we reached Varennes. From there to Verdun it is a desert—over which the horsemen of the Apocalypse have swept.

At only one point is there any evidence of restoration, and this has become one of the sights of the region. I mean the American cemetery at Romagne below Montfaucon. Whenever the Americans take anything up they do it in a wholesale way. Although we had come solely to see ruins, we could not pass this cemetery without a visit. It is the only one of its kind.

On a gently rising hill purchased outright for this purpose are buried the 21,400 Americans, who fell during the fighting around Montfaucon. Some kilometers before we reached this point we noted little white signboards along the road directing us to this gigantic graveyard; for many of the relatives of the fallen cross the sea in order to visit the last resting place of those dear to them.

But when you come within half a mile of the point you need no further guidance. An apparently limitless field of white suddenly greets the vision in the distance. This is the effect of the 21,400 tombstones of equal size shining in the sunlight. There are crosses for protestants and Catholics, and stars for Jews, ranged closely side by side, at the heads of 21,400 uniform, well-kept graves. They all lie there, the officers in the middle. A great star of foliage plants separates the world of the dead from the world of the living. High above the graves flutters the Stars and Stripes. Said, indeed, as is the thought that a whole army of vigorous young boys here slumber in death, this cemetery has nothing gloomy about it. It is a bright and cheerful burial place.

And the army of the dead has its commander. An American officer and his staff reside in the group of tidy houses opposite the entrance, to guard the resting place of their dead countrymen. One of them came forward and greeted us, a cheerful, young man with a wholesome ruddy countenance. What had induced him to exile himself here in this solitude? High pay? A sense of duty? Love for France? The last suggestion is not very plausible, for he does not know a single word of French. In any case, his nerves must be sound, else he could not live here day after day, hour after hour, guarding these 21,400 graves, without going mad.

### Comment Not Needed.

I see that Dr. Schussler, who has had access to documents relating to the quarrel between Bismarck and the ex-kaiser, has published in Germany a new political study entitled "The Fall of Bismarck," writes a correspondent. But surely no addition is needed to Bismarck's own words to Dr. Moritz Busch, on the day of his resignation: "I thought he would be thankful if I were to remain with him for a few years, but I find that on the contrary, he is simply longing with his whole heart to be rid of me, in order that he may govern alone—with his own genius—and be able to cover himself with glory. He does not want the old Mentor any longer, but only docile tools. But I cannot make genuflections, nor crouch under the table like a dog."

### New Anesthetic.

A coal tar chemical for the elimination of all pain in dental surgery is announced. This new chemical is liquid in form, is applied on a pellet of cotton to the gum or mucous membrane surrounding the tooth to be anesthetized or into a cavity prior to excavation where a tooth is to be filled or treated. It produces complete local anesthesia in from two to eight minutes, and eliminates all feeling from one to six hours. Dr. Klein has extracted teeth and pulps painlessly by the use of this chemical. Its effect is entirely local, so it may be applied with perfect safety, regardless of the patient's age or general physical condition. It leaves no disagreeable after-effect.

### China's Air Mail Service.

China, with the reputation of the most backward of nations, is operating a regular airplane mail service between Peking and Shanghai, on which 40 planes are in use large enough to carry passengers and parcels in addition to first-class mail. —Barron's Weekly.

### Mill Girl Judge in England.

England has a mill girl magistrate in the person of Miss Mary Anne Dews, a cloth weaver, in the town of Dewbury, and who has recently been appointed a justice of the peace.

### A Barnum of Finance.

"They tell me that every minute there is a fool born into the world," said the old financier. "And," he added promptly, "thank God, some of 'em live." —Town Topics (London).

## Five Minute Chats on Our Presidents

By JAMES MORGAN

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### WILSON AND THE WAR

1917—Feb. 3, President Wilson broke off diplomatic relations with Germany on her renewal of ruthless submarine warfare.

April 2, read his war message to congress.

1918—Jan. 18, laid before the senate his 14 points.

Nov. 11, the armistice signed with the German revolutionary government.

As he stood at the clerk's desk in the hall of the house of representatives on the evening of April 2, 1917, President Wilson was the central figure in one of the great moments of world history. Not only his own people but mankind stopped to listen.

The president had been re-elected only five months before because "he kept us out of the war." Alas, the war would not keep out of the United States.

The war took on new fury, with the resumption of ruthless submarine warfare, which Germany had modified the year before at our demand. The president thereupon handed the German ambassador his passports, and next he proposed that we should arm our merchant ships. The filibustering senate failing to give him this authority, he proceeded himself to arm them. But shipping vanished from the sea, with its hidden terror, and at last he called the newly elected congress in extraordinary session to "receive a communication concerning grave matters of national policy."

No other president in the whole course of his service has had to make so many momentous decisions as Woodrow Wilson has had to make in



Wilson and His First Grandchild.

the solitude of his study at the White House in those anxious days before the assembling of congress. He could not divide the burden of such a heavy responsibility; he had to bear it alone and without a precedent to guide him.

Should we give a further trial to armed neutrality? Or should we enter upon an independent naval warfare against the submarine menace to our shipping? Or should we back the allies with money and supplies, but leave them to do the fighting? Or should we join forces with them unreservedly, contrary to the historic policy of America to go it alone?

Those alternatives were in every mind in that bewildering period, and the president had to choose between them in framing the policy to be submitted to congress. He made the bolder choice of going into full partnership with the entente allies, pooling with them all our resources, our man power, our money power and our producing power.

The broad plan which he unfolded and which congress quickly approved assured in advance the success of the great, unparalleled undertaking, and he pushed it through to victory with grim, unrelenting persistence. Americans generally assumed at the start, and the British government agreed with them, that we should not have to send a great army to Europe, if indeed any at all. But when it became an imperative necessity to go at double quick to the relief of the broken line in France, the foundation was so well laid that we rose to the unforeseen emergency, building up in a year and a half an army of 4,000,000 and ferrying 2,000,000 soldiers across the Atlantic.

The brains of the country, all the talents, were mobilized for the war—merchants and scientists, bankers and railroad men, labor leaders and clergymen, each being charged with the task for which his training fitted him.

"It is a race between Wilson and Hindenburg," said Lloyd George, when the big German drive surprised the entente and smashed through its front in the spring of 1918. Well, whoever won the war, Hindenburg lost that race.

The rest—the president's journeys to Europe, the treaty and the battle over it, are history still in the making. Many years must pass before that extraordinary chapter in the story of the presidency will be finished and may be told in the spirit of historical impartiality.

### Just as Ma Does Pa.

"Ma, I know what makes the waves angry," said a little Winthrop boy as he watched the breakers pound against the sea wall. "It's because the wind is blowing them up." —Boston Transcript.

## Spokes Around The Hub

Body Found at Owosso—The body of a baby was found at Owosso last week. The body was found on the ice on Shiawassee river. It had been wrapped in a piece of window curtain and was packed in a candy box. It had been prematurely born. Officers there are now seeking the identity of the mother.

Solve Robberies—Three robberies at Freeland during the past month have been solved by the arrest of Joseph Gibbaga, Alexander Tyburski and Thomas Kubic by Saginaw county officers. The men, all less than 25 years of age, confessed.

Invents Ice Cutter—Vern Moline of Grant township, Clare county, has recently constructed an ice cutting machine, built on a sled and carrying a six horse-power engine. In its trials the machine is cutting over 11,000 cakes of ice a day.

To Vote On Bonding—The supervisors of Isabella county have voted to submit two bonding propositions to the people of that county in the spring. One proposition is to build an infirmary within the corporate limits of Mt. Pleasant and the other to bond for \$40,000 to replace the burned structure on the country farm.

Honor Doherty—One hundred and fifty people from Clare and other cities gathered at Duncan hall Wednesday evening to attend the testimonial dinner to Mayor Alfred J. Doherty of that city, tendered to him by the chamber of commerce of that city.

Want Memorial—After waiting two years for some civic organization to start action, The Larman Post No. 128 American Legion of Clare, has started the ball rolling for a memorial for the Clare County war dead. The first action taken was to get the board of supervisors of that county to appropriate \$150 for the purpose. Other funds are now being received.

### ELWELL

L. O. O. F. and D. of R. INSTALL Saturday evening the Rebekahs and L. O. O. F. held joint installation of officers as follows:

Rebekahs—N. G. Matie Lindstrom; V. G. Nellie Abbott; Recording Sec'y, Martha Sander; Financial Sec'y, Mrs. Culver; Treasurer, Anna Ball; Chaplain, Sadie Romine.

L. O. O. F.—N. G. Stanley Ball; V. G. Fred Dellinger; Recording Sec'y, Frank Hall; Financial Sec'y, Sherd Romine; Treasurer, B. R. Hundy.

Saturday Special—Women's Shoes and pumps worth up to \$12.00 per pair, will be sold for \$1.95 Saturday at D. W. Robinson's, Alma.—advertisement.

Don Currence returned to his work at Pewamo, Thursday after visiting a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Currence.

Mr. and Mrs. George Lapangh and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Fairchild were Riverdale callers Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carl of Alma spent the week end with relatives here.

Marlie Slingluff was a business caller at Grand Rapids Monday.

Mrs. Bessie Tobias returned to her home at Kansas City Monday after spending a few weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Toft.

Bert Murphy of Seattle, Wash., visited a few days last week with his brother, A. J. Murphy, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Rice spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Murphy.

Mrs. Geo. Dalrymple and Mrs. Frank Martell were Alma callers Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Woodward were Alma callers Tuesday.

Several from here attended the dance at Riverdale Saturday evening.

The dance at the L. O. O. F. hall Wednesday evening was well attended.

Mrs. Chas. Slingluff visited at the home of Wm. Isenbath at Alma Thursday.

Several from here attended the movies in Alma Tuesday evening.

### VESTABURG

Mrs. William H. White and their son Mark and daughter Mrs. Frank Corder, accompanied by Mrs. Dewitt Murtaugh, motored to Lansing last Thursday and returned home Friday.

Miss Coral Rhoades spent Sunday with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Taft, at their home in Edmore.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Murtaugh and daughter Opal spent Sunday in Edmore with Mrs. Murtaugh's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Taft.

The Vestaburg town team won the game of basketball played with the Alma High Y at the M. W. A. hall Friday evening by a score of 68 to 8.

Master Bernard Brown was very pleasantly surprised by a number of his young friends who went to the farm home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Brown, on Monday evening, Jan. 16, to remind him it was his birthday anniversary. Dick Custer, who was one of the guests, was reminded that his birthday anniversary was to occur the next day, Tuesday, Jan. 17, when at midnight the guests helped him celebrate the occasion.

Miss Doris Nickerson and Miss Bessie Dyer have completed their course at the Ferris Institute at Big Rapids and Miss Nickerson has gone to Detroit to find a position.

Miss Ruth Miller, who was ill the latter part of the week, returned to her school duties Monday.

Mrs. Fred Reader of Detroit is visiting at the home of her son, Lester Reader.

The entertainment of The Virginians Tuesday evening was greatly enjoyed by the people of Vestaburg and vicinity.

The Crystal High School basketball team will come to Vestaburg Friday evening, Jan. 27, to play with the Vestaburg team.

### SETHTON

Wayne Feighner got quite seriously hurt while playing on the ice Friday at the Cully school.

M. D. North and grandson, Roene Locke, went to Muskegon Friday.

There were mid-week services at the church Wednesday evening. On Thursday afternoon and evening the community is invited to Carson City M. E. Church for a round-up meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Terry of N. E. New Haven were Sunday guests at the Wm. Pendell home.

Verne Gardner and family of Carson City spent Sunday with friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. Earle Seger are the proud parents of a son born Tuesday, January 10; named Dean Warren.

Glenn Wilcox was at Farwell on business.

Wm. Pendell moved his family Wednesday to the home he recently purchased of Verne Gardner.

Wm. Gager has purchased a Ford truck.

Carson City has challenged Sethton for a spell down Feb. 1st at Carson City high school.

### DAVIS DISTRICT

G. E. McKicker of Detroit has been here the past week looking after his farm.

Claude Beck had the misfortune to have a cow drowned in the river one day the past week.

Anna and Grace Shaffer visited their sister near St. Louis the first of the week.

Ben Inbody was called to Ohio by the death of his sister.

Mrs. Flora Baker was quite ill last week with ptomaine poisoning. Mr. and Mrs. Chester Dean decided to quit farming and returned to Chicago Monday.

The weekly card party was held at the home of Earl Forrest last Friday night.

Mrs. Mina Campbell slipped and fell last week and is in a very serious condition.



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### SPECIALS FOR SATURDAY Good Quality Beef

Short ribs per lb.	8c	Kettle roasts per lb.	10c to 13c
Pork steak, lb.	15c	Kansas Bread flour, best quality short patent per bbl.	\$8.00
Fresh pork in chunk, lb.	11c-15c	per sack	\$1.05
Salt pork, per lb.	10c-15c	Pasture flour, sack	90c
Bacon, per lb.	23c	5 lb. sack Prepared Pancake Flour	30c
Smoked ham, half or whole, lb.	25c	Cheese, best quality	28c
Veal for stewing, good quality, lb.	12c-15c	Milk, tall cans,	10c
Veal chops, per lb.	20c-25c	Macaroni, 3 lbs.	25c
Genuine Spring Lamb, chops, roasts and stews		Sugar, per cwt.	\$5.75
Spring chickens and fowls lb.	25c-30c	Butter crackers, best quality in box lots	12 1/2c
Lard, home rendered, 5 and 10 lb lots	12c	Syrup, cane and maple 2 1/2 can	35c
Lake trout, per lb.	25c	Karo Syrup, 10 lb pail	50c
Herring, per lb.	11c	Apple No. 10 can	50c
		Laundry soap, 5 bars	19c
		Soup Flakes, 3 lbs.	35c
		Good broom	40c

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Men's Ecu Ribbed Union Suits All Sizes 97c

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Heavy Wool Sox 29c

Black Work Sox 3 Pairs 25c

Men's Overalls, 220 Wt., 87c

Blue Chambray Shirts 59c

Wool Shirts and Drawers Choice \$1.19

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